

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSSWATER. VICTOR ROSSWATER, EDITOR. BEE BUILDING, FARNAM AND 10TH. Entered at Omaha postoffice as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS. Sunday Bee, one year, \$2.00. Saturday Bee, one year, \$1.50. Daily Bee, one year, \$1.00.

DELIVERED BY CARRIER. Evening and Sunday Bee, per month, 40c. Evening, without Sunday, per month, 25c.

REMITTANCE. Remit by draft, express or postal order, payable to The Bee Publishing Company. Only 2-cent stamps received in payment of small accounts.

OFFICERS. Omaha—The Bee Building, South Omaha—218 N. Street, Council Bluffs—14 North Main Street.

CORRESPONDENCE. Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

DECEMBER CIRCULATION. 52,148. State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss.: Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average daily circulation for the month of December, 1913, was 52,148.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

Being a good fellow is all right in its place, but it pays very few bills at the first of the month.

Now, keep your ear and eye peeled for the "first robin"; the base ball players are starting south.

One or two right kind of object lessons would have a mighty fine effect on those young footpads.

Same Here.

Kansas City congratulates itself today that it is presenting its case solely on its merits without reference to the claims of any other city.

The Bee has insisted that if only merit counts, Omaha will get a regional bank. While unfortunately that a certain telegram bobbed in during the hearing before the secretaries at Lincoln, we now have reason to believe that the cabinet members mean what they say in promising that politics will not influence them in locating these reserve centers.

The Real Game. A former New York congressman, William Willet, Jr., has been convicted, along with two confederates, of bribery. Willet, as a democratic candidate, tried to buy a supreme court nomination.

Not in the misfortune of these men is there to be found cause for gratification, but in the fact that even under the great protecting influence of Tammany hall it is possible for justice to win once in a while.

The Alaskan Railroad. Railroads will do exactly for Alaska what they have done for the United States—develop it. And it makes very little difference, so far as that goes, whether they are built and operated by public or private enterprise.

The Optimistic Outlook. Perhaps no better indication of the public mind could be given than is reflected in the generally hopeful expressions coming from the heads of big business as to the future prospects for American commerce and industry.

Dr. Abraham Flexner, though devoting years of study to the situation, reports "No white slave traffic" in Europe, and little in this country, and they reveals his ignorance in the estimation of those who thrive on beating the tom tom over this and other sensational hurrahs.

The pastors of Seattle's four largest downtown churches refuse to close their houses of worship during a Billy Sunday revival, evidently feeling the responsibility laid on them for the shepherding of their own flocks.

The New York Sun, in walloping its friend, Norman Hapgood, for lambasting Anthony Comstock, reminds Norm that Mr. Comstock has given forty years to his work and become "one of the greatest forces in the world for cleanliness."

If Omaha is going to have a comprehensive plan for a park system, it ought to be adopted before any considerable sum of money is put into further piecemeal improvements on what we have.

Looking Backward

This Day in Omaha. JANUARY 27. Thirty Years Ago—Special memorial services for the late Rev. G. E. Stilling were held at Boyd's opera house, with participation by a number of clergymen, among them Rev. J. W. Stewart and Rev. A. F. Sherrill of Omaha.

Twenty Years Ago—On petition of the five receivers for the Union Pacific, Judge Dundy of the federal court ordered a sweeping reduction of wages to all employees of that bankrupt road, which, with other business enterprises, was feeling the effects of democratic "prosperity."

Ten Years Ago—The contest for district clerk between W. W. Bigham and F. A. Broadwell was continuing close. The day's count showed Bingham had a lead of but two votes.

People and Events. G. W. McDonald, who has founded a school of letrabry in Carmi, Ill., is an expert operator though totally blind.

Efficiency of Prayer. McCarthy got into an argument with Casey about the efficacy of prayer. "You can't see that there's anything in it," answered Casey. "Oh never got anything out of it."

Bankruptcy. Charles F. Melle, at a dinner in Boston, said of a bankrupt: "His bankruptcy was like that which the peasant described."

Around the Cities. Kansas City's public library is circulating rolls for prayer-plans. St. Louis is to have a court for girls exclusively, presided over by two women judges.

Facts and Fancies. The rule is that a gentleman is one who isn't conscious of it. An agreeable hostess is one who is able to conceal her feelings.

ONLY an eye blind to the signs of the times can fail to discern, that ultimately there will be no market for unadvertised goods.

Gladhand for Message

Boston Transcript (rep.): The president's address to congress treats the immediate sympathy of thoughtful men the country over, and will command, we venture, general public approval when the program outlined shall have been translated into law.

New York Sun (rep.): The merit or demerit of most of the president's proposals depends upon the legislative form in which they shall be embodied by congress. The main thing at present is the Wilson's own contribution to the solution of the present deplorable condition of business in the United States, and for that he will be heartily and gratefully applauded.

Philadelphia Bulletin (rep.): If he shall succeed in imparting to his majority in congress his personal attitude and purpose, he will certify his leadership to the confidence of the nation, and so far as he shall endeavor to do that, he deserves the hearty support of public opinion, whatever of difference of opinion there may be as to the details of legislation that may arise for later discussion. The message is helpful.

Twice Told Tales. His Princely Salary. Mr. X., a lawyer, was much addicted to the habit of lecturing his clerks, the office boy coming in for an unusual share of admonition whenever occasion offered.

She Was Supplied. While traveling through the rural districts of Missouri a book salesman approached a farmer and stood for several minutes importuning him to buy the book he was selling. Presently the farmer blinked his eyes and said: "No, it ain't no use, I can't read."

Quaint Bits of Life. A New Jersey violinist who lost his right arm in an accident invented an artificial member of steel with which he is able to play his favorite instrument.

Hamilton Cherry, who has six feet nine inches in height, died recently near Aurora, Ill. He was 73 years old, Cherry was of ordinary height until 30 years of age, when he began to grow. He came from a family of giants, every member being more than six feet four inches tall.

Passenger Conductor Harry Reigh was considerably astonished when a passenger on his Pittsburgh division train, an aged woman, handed him a ticket from Pittsburgh to Altoona issued forty years ago on February 1. Reigh found it called for one first class passage and accepted it as fare.

John Bach, a retired tailor in Newark, N. J., celebrated his ninety-ninth birthday recently in the presence of five children, thirty-nine grandchildren and sixty-four great-grandchildren. An unusual feature is that while he has been in this country seventy-three years, he has never learned to speak English.

Scarcely ten years ago a citizen was fined in Prussia for sneezing too loudly in a quiet street at night. Last week a petty jury at Buzlau refused to condemn a citizen on the same grounds. The police demanded a conviction against a prisoner for "disturbing the public peace" on the night of November 25, but the jury threw out the case on the ground that the police had no business to attempt to control the tone of public sneezes.

Editorial Siftings

Philadelphia Ledger: The appearance of the muffs in Paris indicates that the silk skirt enables many things to be seen that never were seen before.

Washington Post: Seeing that a peace pact has been concluded with the belligerent Swiss, we suppose Billy Sunday will want half of the next Nobel prize money.

Brooklyn Eagle: No actor will have his income tax deducted till he has actually been paid \$3,000 in one year by a manager. A tax on air holes was never contemplated.

Boston Transcript: The kodak trust, after proceedings in camera, has decided not to try to filmflam Mr. McReynolds by handing the Department of Justice a negative, but agrees to assume a graceful pose, look pleasant, and await developments.

Cincinnati Enquirer: Added indorsement of General W. S. Hancock's declaration that the tariff is a local question comes from the wool growers in session at Salt Lake City. They charge, as representatives of the west, that free wool was voted by the east and the south for selfish reasons.

Indianapolis News: Perhaps if corporation managers would consult their eminent attorneys as to how to conduct their business without violating the law, instead of, as heretofore in many cases, consulting them as how to evade the law, they wouldn't need governmental assistance to get right.

Baltimore American: The terrible depopulation caused by war as shown by the census taken by Bulgaria of its new territories ought vastly to promote the peace movement. And the frightful waste of human life is only one feature of war, for the trail of destitution, disease and suffering left behind makes the fate of those slain in war almost to be envied by the wretched survivors.

Philadelphia Record: The railroad companies have benefited more from the tariff suppression of rate wars, panics and rebates than they are willing to acknowledge, and they and other forms of big business will probably find out in the course of time that the regulation called for by the president, which congress seems likely to grant without delay or serious dissent, will be of net benefit to them in protecting them from cut-throat competition and misuse of their funds in establishing public confidence.

Springfield Republican: If the results of the first two months of the new tariff should obtain throughout the fiscal year, both sides of the old tariff controversy would be made to look foolish. The low tariff men would have to explain why exports had fallen off and why their revenue estimates on imports had gone so far wrong. The high tariff men would face the embarrassing fact that imports of foreign goods had markedly declined on the heels of their predictions that the letting down of the tariff bars would bring upon the American market a surfeit of foreign made goods. Nothing seems to be happening thus far quite as anyone anticipated.

Philadelphia Ledger: The appearance of the muffs in Paris indicates that the silk skirt enables many things to be seen that never were seen before.

JOLLIES FROM JUDGE.

"Pa, what's a theatrical angel?" "A man whose money has wings, my son."

Drummer—Don't you have old-fashioned barn dances any more? "Lev' Lucas—Nups. Now we call 'em 'garage socials.'"

Wife—I am a bundle of nerves! Sympathetic Husband—Well, so long as the string doesn't break, you will be all right, my dear!

Socialist Orator—Tell me why it is you have to work from morning until night. Auditor—It is the only time we get. We sleep from night till morning.

"You do not offer enough." "I don't quite get you duke," said the heiress. "That's the idea. You don't quite get me. Another woman has raised your bid."

"Does Miss De Gabb resemble her mother?" "Not so much at first sight; but when she begins to talk, there's a speaking likeness."

Mr. Rocks—So you want to marry my daughter. Well, young man, what are your prospects? "Excellent—Excellent—if you don't spoil them."

Not—What did Miss Pettie say after you kissed her? "Ted—She told me to call on Friday."

Teacher—What is a host, Tommie? Tommie—I dunno, ma'am. "Suppose your father gave a dinner to a number of his friends, what would he be?" "He'd be the 'goat,' I reckon."—Yonkers Statesman.

THE POET AND HIS SONG. Paul Lawrence Dunbar. A song is but a little thing. And yet what joy it is to sing: In hours of fall it gives me zest And when at eve I long for rest, When cows come home along the bars, And in the fold I hear the bell, A song, the shepherd, herds his stars, I sing my song, and all is well.

There are no ears to hear my lays, No lips to lift a word of praise; But still, with faith unshaken, I live and laugh and love and sing. What matter you unheeding throng? They cannot feel my spirit's spell, Since life is sweet and love is long, I sing my song, and all is well.

My days are never days of ease; I fill my ground and prune my trees, When ripened gold is all the plain, I put my sickle in the grain. I labor hard, and toil and sweat, While others dream within the dell; But even while my brow is wet, I sing my song, and all is well.

Sometimes the sun, unkindly hot, My garden makes a desert spot; Sometimes a blight upon the tree Takes all my fruit away from me; And then with throes of bitter pain, Rebellious passion rises and swells, But life is more than fruit or grain, And so I sing, and all is well.

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